

142 Church Street ◆ Charleston, SC 29401

January 16, 2017

Dear St. Philippians,

I am writing to let you know of my plan to retire at the end of the spring. My last Sunday as your organist-choirmaster will be May 28.

It has gratified me that Jeff, on numerous occasions, has urged me to stay as long as I can. That sentiment has been echoed by many of you. While such words of encouragement and support warm my heart, God has made it clear that he has other plans for me. When I came to St. Philip's 22 years ago, I felt strongly God's call upon me. Now I hear him just as clearly calling me to a new chapter in my life where I will continue to serve him, but in new and different ways.

There are many people who have helped me along the way, to whom I owe a debt of gratitude. I will express my thanks to them at a later date. For now, let me say that my chief thanks must go to you, the wonderful people of St. Philip's, for the opportunity you have given me to serve you and God in this very special corner of his vineyard.

Nancy and I consider St. Philip's to be our church home, our spiritual anchor. There is no place we would rather be than in your midst. With Jeff's blessing, we plan to continue to be active in the parish following my retirement. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for us in the next stage of our common life together.

With thanksgiving to God,

Capers Cross